

Kissimmee River Restoration Construction to Interrupt Navigation

New phase of restoration begins; north-south navigation blocked until 2011

Okeechobee, FL - Due to construction activities associated with the Kissimmee River Restoration project now under way by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, a section of the Kissimmee River beginning at the northern extent of the restored river and extending northward for about four miles will be closed to boaters. The project, which begins the week of September 22, is expected to be complete by Spring 2011.

The first sign of work in the area will be the construction of 14 culverts across the C-38 Canal, which is the channelized portion of the Kissimmee River. Following this activity, contractors for the Corps will backfill about four miles of the C-38, in addition to reconnecting historic oxbows and recarving sections of the river that were lost during the 1960s channelization project. This is the third of four construction phases.

The total estimated cost of the Kissimmee River Restoration project is \$612 million. It is scheduled for completion in early 2013. The project will return flow to 40 miles of the river's historic channel and will provide ecosystem benefits in an area of about 40 square miles, including restoration of 20 square miles of wetlands. The restoration is a partnership between the Corps and the South Florida Water Management District, with each partner bearing 50 percent of the cost.

For additional information about this or any of our projects, please phone the SFWMD [Okeechobee Service Center](#) at 863-462-5260 or 800-250-4200.